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2001 F250 SUPERCAB LARIAT 4 X 4 - diesel extra clean - local trade-in

2000 WINDSTAR SEL WAGON - loaded - very clean

1999 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE - local trade - very sharp


2001 F 150 SUPERCREW - Lariat - 4 wd - local trade - one owner

2001 FORD EXPEDITION (EDDIE BAUER) - extra nice - loaded with leather

2001 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE - leather - low mileage


2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS - local trade - must see

2000 FOCUS SE - pretty color - automatic

1998 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE - Laredo - local trade-in - extra clean


2002 MERCURY SABLE - PS - PW/locks - tilt - cruise - alum wheels

1999 VOLKSWAGON JETTA GL - local trade - great buy

2001 CHEV TAHOE LS - only 25K miles - must see


2001 LINCOLN TOWN CAR "SIGNATURE" - extra clean - fully loaded - great value

2002 Z 71 EX CAB LS - local trade - must see

2002 FORD EXPLORER XLT - 4 dr - power windows & locks - tilt & cruise


2001 HYUNDAI SANTA FE - leather interior - all wheel drive - local trade

2000 Z 71 REG CAB LS - sharp - very clean

2002 FORD ESCAPE - power windows & locks - tilt - cruise - extra clean


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Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stokes celebrate 50th wedding anniversary

Elba teachers help build go-cart at Kid's College

Local volunteer fire departments receive grant checks

The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 9

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 14, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

Elba City Council approves tax increase on tobacco products

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council unanimously approved an increased tobacco tax ordinance Monday evening during the regular council meeting. Council members discussed the proposed changes in the tobacco tax during a scheduled work session held immediately before the council meeting. The tax change will be effective October 1st, 2003.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham issued a plea that motorists be especially watchful in Elba due to the tremendous and varied amount of construction going on all over the city.

No council member had a recommendation for appointment to the Coffee County Board of

Rumors run rapid following t-shirt incident at Zion Chapel Schools

by Linda Hodge, Editor

School aged children love to wear trendy clothing, but sometimes those fashions just get a little too far. The new schedule, taxes on cigarettes will increase from .04 to .10 cents per pack. The five count package of cigarettes will be taxed at .10 cents while a box of 200 cigarettes will carry a \$2.00 tax stamp. Chewing tobacco, snuff, etc. will be taxed at either .15 or .25 per unit, based on size and tobacco content. Tobacco products sold outside the city limits but within the police jurisdiction will be taxed at half the above amounts.

In addition to the increase in taxes, the new ordinance clarifies certain categories of language which was not clear and in the original ordinance, causing some confusion with tobacco license holders.

The council approved two resolutions needed for a Community Development Block Grant application. The grant for \$52,475.00 is to help fund an industrial expansion 12" water line.

Another resolution passed was in support of a Southeast Alabama Gas District plan to change their bylaws to increase and stabilize the amount of money passed to the user cities each year. Under the new proposed bylaws, amendment amounts returned to the municipalities will be based on a five year average of income over expenses.

Monthly bills totaling

were ZION Chapel Rebel shirts, and students were only sent home after refusing to turn their shirt inside out. She said students were allowed to come back to school after changing.

The situation was not nearly as controversial as some made it out to be," Ingram said. "I would say there was less than 10 students in the entire week that got in trouble."

With more than one company producing these type t-shirts, consumers are open to many different designs, and some name

Please See REBEL, Page 8

equalization. Mayor Grimes reported he would make a selection and report his decision back to the council at a later date.

The July monthly statistics report from the Elba Police Department indicated 1003 calls for service during the past month, resulting in eight accidents, 70 traffic arrests, an increase of 36 from the previous month; 149 warnings, also an increase from the previous month; 27 criminal arrests, two DUI arrests and nine drug arrests. I & O reports increased 26 up to a total of 72. During this time officers drove a total of 13,919 miles, 1,836 fewer than the previous month.

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Please See REBEL, Page 8



LAND ALMOST CLEARED and the local dog pound on its last legs as the City of Elba prepares to move out and make room for Elba's newest industry, Toledo Molding and Die, which will occupy a 40 acre site off the 203 Bypass and adjoining Elba's Folsom Airport. The firm hopes to be in the building by the end of the year and in production by late January or early February in the 92,000 square foot building and plans to have over 100 employees soon after startup of auto parts production.

The firm doing the site preparation plans to remove as much as seven feet of dirt in some areas, replacing it with other compacted more soil to ensure a strong foundation under the building.

The dog pound will relocate across from the work release center, according to Mayor James Grimes.

During Coffee County Commission meeting
County revenue commissioner and probate judge address governor's proposed tax plan

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the regular meeting of the Coffee County Commission Monday, Aug. 11, two department heads addressed how the governor's proposed tax plan will affect business in their offices.

According to Coffee County Schools Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram, many students started wearing these type t-shirts last year as well as waving large Confederate flags from their vehicles, and she said the faculty had become a problem in the schools, and she said the faculty found themselves in a fashion stand-off.

In this particular case, the questionable clothing involved shirts containing the Rebel flag in which students were told not to wear the shirts deemed offensive by some students and other community members. Many locals took exception to this since the school is after all known as the Zion Chapel Rebels.

However, school officials quickly reminded everyone that the Rebel flag is not the school's mascot. Instead, it is and has always been an Army Colonel (as shown here with this article).

Ingram said none of the shirts involved in last week's situation were ZION Chapel Rebel shirts, and students were only sent home after refusing to turn their shirt inside out. She said students were allowed to come back to school after changing.

She explained the changes the plan will enforce through a figure comparison, and said the current state tax on 240 acres with a \$600 per acre value is \$31.20. Through the governor's proposed plan, he said the tax on this same acreage amount will increase by 10 percent.

With these changes, the state tax will go from the current amount of \$39 to \$175 if the proposed plan is passed. That will be a difference of \$136 or a 350 percent increase in state tax.

Burns also said the county assessment value will remain the same; therefore, the increase in taxes will strictly be a state increase.

He said these figures represent a normal homestead, and those over 65 will still be exempt if their income qualifies them for the exemption.

Although Burns said he supports the governor, he said he can not support this proposed tax plan because of the too much, too quick reasoning along with no one being able to fully explain all the aspects of the proposed tax plan.

"This bill is a very complicated, very long bill," Burns said. "I would be very afraid to vote for something they can't explain

wholly to you."

Probate Judge William Gammill said the governor's proposed tax plan will effect taxpayers in three different ways through probate transactions.

He said casual sales tax will increase 1/2 percent on the sale of all vehicles and boats. Currently, the state sales tax is 2 percent.

Gammill said this will equate to an increase of \$50 per each \$10,000 of purchase price of all vehicles and boats.

Through the proposed plan, he said the ad valorem tax on vehicles will experience an increase of a four year period.

Currently, private owned vehicles are taxed for ad valorem taxes based on 15 percent of the assessed value multiplied by a 6.5 millage rate. Over a four year period, Gammill said the proposed tax plan will gradually increase the assessment ratio from 15 percent to 100 percent.

The millage rate will decrease from the present 6.5 mills to 3.5 mills.

William Gammill used an example of a taxpayer owning a vehicle valued at \$20,000.

The current tax on this vehicle assessed at 15 percent with 6.5 mills equates to \$19.50. If the tax bill passes, the changes will be implemented as follows for the vehicle valued at \$20,000.

"Jan. 2004 the assessed value will be at 45 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$31.50. This is a \$1.50 difference from the current tax rate.

"Jan. 2005 the assessed value will be at 63 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$44.10. This is a \$24.60 difference from the current tax rate.

"Jan. 2006 the assessed value will be at 81 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$56.70. This is a \$37.70 difference from the current tax rate.

"Jan. 2007 the assessed value will be at 100 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$70. This is a \$50.50 difference from the current tax rate.

Overall, the proposed tax plan will implement a 260 percent tax increase for ad valorem tax.

Please See TOWN, Page 2

Area Happenings

THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Aug. 14, at the Coffee County Farm Center. For more information, please call 334-304-2724 or Charles Jester at (334) 304-2724.

NEW BROCKTON HIGH SCHOOL will hold an Open House Thursday, Aug. 14, from 4 to 6 p.m. All parents are invited to come and meet the teachers.

THE ELBA HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS CLUB will hold an organizational meeting Saturday, Aug. 16, at 7 p.m. in the high school band room.

THE THIRD ANNUAL "TOP NOTCH CLASSIC" will be held Thursday, Aug. 21, at Miltier Memorial Stadium in Elba. The Elba Tigers will take on the Seminole Tigers in this year's competition. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

NEW SEASIDE STUDY CLUB will sponsor Elba's 3rd Annual "Top Notch" competition. The competition will be held at the Elba Recreation Center. Tickets for the event are \$10.00 each and will be put on sale at the Elba Chamber of Commerce or Chamber's Denier's Hall and Bistro.

Please See TOWN, Page 2

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

From Last Week...Red clay turns out not to be vandalism

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Americans all complain when politicians are caught digging in the tax coffers for special "back home" projects. That is unless we are the back home folks getting the vital pork projects. This week we received a news release announcing that Alabama's own Senator **Richard Shelby** had been named "Porker of the Month for August '03." Our initial reaction was that someone was fussing because all his good work in getting much needed grants for "us" in Alabama. Well this one is a little different. Apparently our senior senator is delaying a bill to cut tariffs on certain goods — more particularly knit-to-shape socks from some Caribbean countries. According to the Citizens Against Government Waste, **Shelby** is upset because this new "great free trade bill" could cost 10,000 Alabama citizens their jobs. **Shelby** is pushing to have these imported socks exempted from the free trade/import tax exemption category. Somehow or another these folks feel justified in being mad with our main man for trying to protect a whole bunch of American manufacturing jobs. There are thousands of unemployed textile workers in this country who wish he and a lot of others had taken this strong stand years ago.

More and more often we are hearing louder and louder rumblings that Chief Justice **Roy Moore** is copying the antics of Alabama's civil rights era politicians with his threats of defiance of federal court orders in the Ten Commandments monument matter. The private comments are also that his battle is just as futile as those politicians of yesteryear who shouted "segregation today, segregation tomorrow and segregation forever." The complainers are for the most part not opposed to the Ten Commandments monument, but embarrassed that our judge of all judges is apparently openly defying the law of the land and maybe even openly daring the courts to challenge him. All this with the cash strapped socks for Alabama footings the mounting bills for the ongoing battle. A good measure of putting the issue in proper perspective was recently suggested. That would be to take the reaction of the avid Moore supporter: if a Muslim or Hindu monument or maybe a statue of Buddha, the enlightened one, were placed in the same judicial building rotunda. After all, it is about our F-R-E-E-D-O-M-S. Therefore we should show we can practice it. Actually under the current ongoing court rulings, we would be forced to let any, absolutely any, group place their religious symbols, (regardless of how radical or far out) on display in the building, if we are to leave the Ten Commandments monument. Personally we are not about to be willingly led into that trap. "Bow to the rulings of the courts Judge, you have made your point and made it nationally."

We were at first concerned when Governor Riley announced the new nominees for the Auburn Board of Trustees. One, **Dwight Carlisle** is a member of the executive branch of state government [Revenue Commissioner] so removing two legislators from the Trustees didn't "add diversity"; just different folks. Now we hear he must resign from the state job if approved as an Auburn Trustee by the legislature and we accept this. From all we hear, **Carlisle** is a capable person and will do well at whatever job he accepts. Now he needs to get away from state government completely for Auburn to truly realize the real diversity Governor Riley was after.

REMINDER

The City of Elba, Elba Chamber of Commerce and Sesquicentennial Committee will continue the celebration of Elba's 150th Anniversary on Saturday, Aug. 23, with a concert featuring legendary country music artist **George Jones** at Miller Memorial Stadium in Elba. Gates will open at 8 p.m.

The opening act beginning at 8:30 p.m. will feature Elba's own **Rob Hudson**, and the "Possum" will take center stage at 8 p.m.

Tickets remain on sale at the Elba Chamber of Commerce for reserved seating (on field and in stands) or general admission.

For more information, call the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Aug. 4, 2003, investigated the following incidents: one theft of property, one criminal mischief, one harassing communications, one domestic violence, one hit and run, one trespassing, one accident, one criminal trespassing, one stalking, one robbery and two for harassment.

The following arrests were made: one for domestic violence, one for possession of marijuana and one for harassment.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for a suspended driver's license, one for a revoked driver's license, three for not wearing a seat belt, three for speeding, one failure to use a turn signal, one for no proof of insurance, one for not using a child restraint safety system and one for running a stop sign.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, AUGUST 4 - River

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5 - Wreck with a drive-off reported at Mr. Henry's (1:34 a.m.); River stage - 7.66 feet (6:10 a.m.); Fight in progress reported at 1320 Jones St. (8:45 p.m.); Wreck (vehicle vs. gas pump) reported at Big/Little West (9:22 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to Regency Apartments (12:19 a.m.); River stage - 10.82 feet (6:11 a.m.); Routine activity.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7 - River stage - 12.98 feet (6:01 a.m.); Prowler reported at 788 County Rd. 401 (11:12 p.m.); Prowler reported at 824 First Ave. (11:37 p.m.).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8 - River stage - 14.99 feet (6:21 a.m.); Routine activity.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 - River stage - 14.65 feet (6:13 a.m.); Alarm activated at 996 Alabama Hwy. 203 (11:24 a.m.); Disturbance reported at 329 Brunson Circle (7:38 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 625 Reynolds St. (8:27 p.m.).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 - River stage - 12.14 feet (6:16 a.m.); Alarm activated at 996 Alabama Hwy. 203 (11:24 a.m.); Disturbance reported at 329 Brunson Circle (7:38 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 625 Reynolds St. (8:27 p.m.).

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881 TO REPORT A CRIME

REMAIN ANONYMOUS

REMAINTHANKS

RE

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Country Cathedral to hold Gospel Singing Saturday, August 23

Country Cathedral, Hwy. 84 East in Opp, Ala., will hold concert August 23, 2003 at 6 p.m. The featured singers will be Higher Ground, Brewton, Ala., Hearts Desire, Ino, Ala.; The Dyess Family, Opp, Ala.; Renona Richburg, Opp, Ala.; Bowdy Brown, Opp, Ala. For more information call 334-493-7685.

Kingdom Express to be in concert at Klondyke Gospel Music Center

Kingdom Express, from Fortson, Georgia, will return in concert, Saturday, August 16th, 7:00 p.m. at the Klondyke Gospel Music Center, located

River of Life Worship Center to hold revival services August 17-20

River of Life Worship Center (345 West Davis St. across from court house) will hold a revival August 17-20, 2003 at 6 p.m. on Sunday night and 7:00 p.m.

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Coffee County Arts Alliance

Invites You To Attend the 2003-2004 Season

The Belle of Amherst Free Season Opener

Aug 17, 2003 • 2:30 PM

Eprise St Luke UM Church

Atlanta Pops Orchestra An Adventure in Music

Sep 25, 2003 • 7:30 PM

Enterprise HS Auditorium

Letters From the Front A Patriotic Evening

Oct 28, 2003 • 7:30 PM

Elba HS Auditorium

Boomers 40's - 70's Song & Dance

Jan 9, 2004 • 7:30 PM

Enterprise HS Auditorium

DeLois Brass Dixieland, Swing & Broadway

Feb 20, 2004 • 7:30 PM

Enterprise HS Auditorium

Piney Woods Arts Festival Arts, Crafts, Fun, & Food

Apr 17 & 18, 2004

Eprise-Ozark Comm College

For information 334-1617 or 334-2747

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 4:1-3

***Thinking of you, praying for you. Johnnie Ruth Belcher, Lizzie Tyson, Verrie Barnes, Georgia Germany, Louie Hooks, Bettie English, Hille Hooks, Oneather Smedley, Maggie Head and Matie Belcher.

***August Birthdays: Bria Culver - August 9, Kathryn Carpenter - August 15, Rea Rita Brooks - August 17, Isaac Nelson - August 18, J.L. Williams - August 20, Chasity Williams - August 21, Alan Belcher - August 26, Derrick Daniels - August 28 and Lance Cross - August 30.

***Choir Anniversary of the Piney Grove Baptist Church in Opp, Ala. will be held August 17, 2003 at 2:30 p.m.

Dedication services for the New Building at Shiloh Baptist

Today is a good day, be grateful!

Church, Brundidge will be held August 17, 2003 at 2:30 p.m.

***Visitors at Rocky M.B. Church will be holding a week-end revival August 15-17.

Friday & Saturday night services will begin at 7:00. Sunday services will be at 10:30 a.m.

and 6:00 p.m. Pastors Ken & Cynthia Draughan will be the guest evangelists.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Homecoming set at Jack Assembly of God Church for August 17th

Jack Assembly of God will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, August 17th. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m. followed by morning worship at 10:45 a.m. with Bro. Alvin Loper delivering the morning message. A covered dish lunch

will be served following the service with singing by The Lighthouse Gospel Singers from Bowdy, Ala., in the afternoon.

Everyone is invited to attend. Jack Assembly of God is located on County Rd. 208 in the Jack community.

Vanderbilt Holiness Church to hold Gospel Singing on August 16

Vanderbilt Holiness Church will have a Gospel Sing on Saturday, August 16, 2003 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Tarentum Community Center located on Hwy. 125, south of Brundidge. The singing will feature Bo Smith and the Singing

Miracles, Derek Snellgrove, and Mercy's Call. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be no charge for admission. All proceeds will benefit the ministries of the Vanderbilt Holiness Church. For more information call (334)897-3778.

Elba Church of God plans Friendship Day for Sunday, August 17

The Elba Church of God is hosting Friendship Day Sunday the 17th. The 11 am service will

have singing and a friendship greeting from Pastor Ray Williams.

While at EHS, she has taught English, speech, and journalism; in addition, she helped establish the American Studies Program which is currently celebrating its 10th year at the school.

White she has performed with a variety of amateur theaters.

The Belle of Amherst is a one-woman play based on the writings of Emily Dickinson and will be performed by Margaret Ray Wingate, a native of Enterprise and teacher at Enterprise High School.

Margaret Byrd Wingate first became interested in theater arts as a high school student at EHS during the 1960s. After graduating from Birmingham Southern College, she moved to New York City, where she worked in the administrative offices of The Juilliard Theater Center and at CBS television. Prior to moving back to Enterprise in 1985, she also worked with theater companies in Massachusetts and

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While at EHS, she has taught English, speech, and journalism; in addition, she helped establish the American Studies Program which is currently celebrating its 10th year at the school.

White she has performed with a variety of amateur theaters.

The Belle of Amherst is a one-woman play based on the writings of Emily Dickinson and will be performed by Margaret Ray Wingate, a native of Enterprise and teacher at Enterprise High School.

Margaret Byrd Wingate first became interested in theater arts as a high school student at EHS during the 1960s. After graduating from Birmingham Southern College, she moved to New York City, where she worked in the administrative offices of The Juilliard Theater Center and at CBS television. Prior to moving back to Enterprise in 1985, she also worked with theater companies in Massachusetts and

Ohio as well as with the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. Ms. Wingate completed her Masters Degree in Language Arts

SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Having to get up early to take a shower and get dressed for school has certainly solved the problem of getting Melanie to go to bed on time during the week. Back during the summer there were very few nights that I didn't hear her up moving around after I went to bed, but lately she has been in bed asleep before I even turned off the TV in the den. She still sleeps in on the weekends, but Dad likes to do that himself and I can't gripe.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers had to be hoisted off outside the dressing room after going outside to practice last Thursday and Coach Mike Waters reported that the rainy weather has played havoc with the condition of the field at the school. The Thursday practice ate up huge chunks of turf on the Tigers' practice field, and Waters said it may be weeks before his team can play a visit to Tiger Stadium to get in some much-needed kicking work. This may be the year that coaches go back and dig out those long cleats that were so visible years ago.

*** I read in a daily paper that Coach Leavy Boutwell and his Northview Cougars headed back into the dressing room after only twenty minutes of work on the opening day of pre-season practice. The report said his players - not back in for some "soul searching," but did quote Coach Boutwell after practice and the former Elba player and coach said his team picked up the pace and did well on opening day. Coach Boutwell may have some tough days ahead as he tries to lead the Cougars back after two winless seasons, but none tougher than his players.

*** The Birmingham News listed its annual "Academic All-State" teams over the summer and included on the honored list were five student-athletes from Elba High School. Gofer Colby Capps headed the list with a 4.0 grade point average, followed by Bart Barnes (golf and basketball) 3.90, Samantha Weller (softball) 3.90, Ben Dye (golf) 3.90 and Brandon Peeler (football and baseball) 3.80. It was great to see that the student-athletes at Elba High really did their first.

*** The Alabama High School Athletic Association had an article on its web site last week concerning nicknames of its member schools. The most popular nickname was Tigers, with 49 schools using the Tiger as its mascot and nickname, and it was followed by Bulldogs (32), Wildcats (26), Panthers (26) and Eagles (24). This season the Elba Tigers will battle four sets of Bulldogs, four sets of Tigers, one Lion and one Eagle.

*** Coaches are working on next season's football schedules even before this season gets started, and the big news over in Covington County is the report that Straughn and Andalusia will play on the opening week of the season in both 2004 and 2005. Some fans think the rivalry will be even bigger than Andalusia's long running clash against Opp, and word is that the game will be played each year on Thursday to insure a huge crowd. Sounds like a winner to me.

*** In closing... I write sports and put together my sports pages on Sundays, and that means I am a little behind schedule this week due to the power outage across town on Sunday morning. I did last week that the Water and Electric Department needed to provide its users with new bedside clocks that reset automatically when the power goes off, especially since the outages have been so common this summer. My old clock has reset so often that I just shake it until the time is close to being right. Oh well, as long as we get to work and school on time I guess that is all that matters.

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With L.B.W. Community College

Kyle English signs baseball scholarship

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Former Elba Tiger standout Kyle English ended months of speculation about which sport he would play in college last week when he signed a baseball scholarship with L.B. Wallace Community College, in Andalusia.

English, a three-sport athlete at Elba High, was recruited in football, basketball and baseball, and recently it was reported that he had verbally committed to play basketball at Faulkner Community College, in Bay Minette. Last week's signing put an end to the speculation; however, as on Friday, Aug. 8, English officially became a L.B.W. Saint.

"I like to play all three sports and always hoped I would play basketball one day at the college level," stated English, "but after weighing the options I thought it would be best to stay close to home and when L.B.W. offered me a baseball scholarship I jumped at the opportunity. L.B.W. has a very rich tradition in baseball and has probably the state's top junior college coach in Steve Helms. Coach Helms is succeeded by his players seem to move on to the year schools after they complete their career at L.B.W., and that was a combination that I just had to take advantage of. I know it will tough at the junior college level and it will take a lot of hard work on my part to earn playing time, but I came here to play baseball and I will do whatever it takes to play. I am looking forward to the challenge and the opportunity to be a member of such an outstanding program."

English was a star for the Elba Tiger baseball team since his freshman year, and batted over .400 in both his junior and senior seasons as a short-stop and pitcher. He led the team in steals as a junior and in his senior year as well. He is the most versatile athlete to ever come through Elba High.

"Kyle was definitely one of the most versatile athletes to ever come through Elba High in his 13th year as the head baseball

coach at L.B.W.," stated he was glad to sign English and added that he was always looking for players in the Tri-County area.

"We always have around eight or nine players on the team from the Tri-County area," said Coach Helms, "and we are very happy that Kyle chose to come and join our program. He has been one of the top high school baseball players in the area for a number of years, and look forward to having him join our program. Over the past twelve years we have been ranked in the top ten in the nation nine years, and have had a one-hundred percent transfer rate for players that worked hard on the

field and in the classroom. Our players have a good work ethic both on the field and in class, and that leads to success both on and off the field."

"Shane Blanton and Hayden Young were both Elba High grads that came over to L.B.W. and had good careers," added Coach Helms, "and we have had other Elba grads such as Todd McCall that were members of the program and then moved on to be successful in college athletics. I look for Kyle to fit well in our program and become an important member of the Saints baseball team."

Kyle is the son of Ken and Patsy English, of Elba.

Break in weather allows area teams to hit practice fields

The high school football season is now only two weeks away, and that means that the teams in the area are hard at work every afternoon in preparation for the upcoming season openers. Following is a recap of last week's practice sessions at the schools in the area:

ELBA TIGERS

The Elba Tigers managed to dodge the rain drops, long enough to get in two good days of hitting on the practice field last week, and Coach Mike Waters is hoping the sun will come out and allow his team to get in some much-needed work

in pads.

"We went out and got muddy on Thursday afternoon," said Coach Waters, in his third year at the Elba helm, "while on Friday we had a short, but very spartan work out in pads and began to look a little like a football team. We have some players that need to step up and be leaders if we are going to be ready for the season opener, and also have some young players that will have to learn on the field and improve as we go. We have had some problems getting our players to work out in the various things, but now that school is in its second week that should end and we should have our team at work each and every day. We are working hard to do the little things right before we throw too much at the players, but we will have to pick things up pretty soon if we are going to be a competitive football team."

The Tigers will host Samson in a pre-season game on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 7:00 PM, at Miller Memorial Stadium, while their season opener will be on Aug. 29, in Brantley.

KINSTON BULLDOGS

The Kinston Bulldogs are down in numbers and in talent this season, but the Bulldogs have been working hard and fourth year coach Gary Glass is optimistic that his team will be ready when the season kicks off.

"We don't have a large group this season and don't have a lot of experience," said Coach Glass, "but there is a lot of work and a lot of effort put into the practice field and I actually think we have better overall speed than we had a year ago. We have some kids out here that got some playing time last year and that should help the younger ones come along a little quicker. Playing in a jamboree on August 22 will help us a great deal, especially since we have an open date the opening week and won't open until Sept. 5 against Houston County, Geneva County, Barbour County and Houston County will join us in the jamboree, and the jamboree

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Elba Tiger three-sport athlete Kyle English made his decision to continue his career in baseball last week by signing a baseball scholarship with L.B.W. Community College, in Andalusia. Pictured at the signing are (seated, l-r) Patsy English, Kyle English, Ken English, (standing, l-r) Steve Helms and Elba Tiger coach Wynn Grimes.

Photo by Ricky Mularz

COMMUNITY NEWS

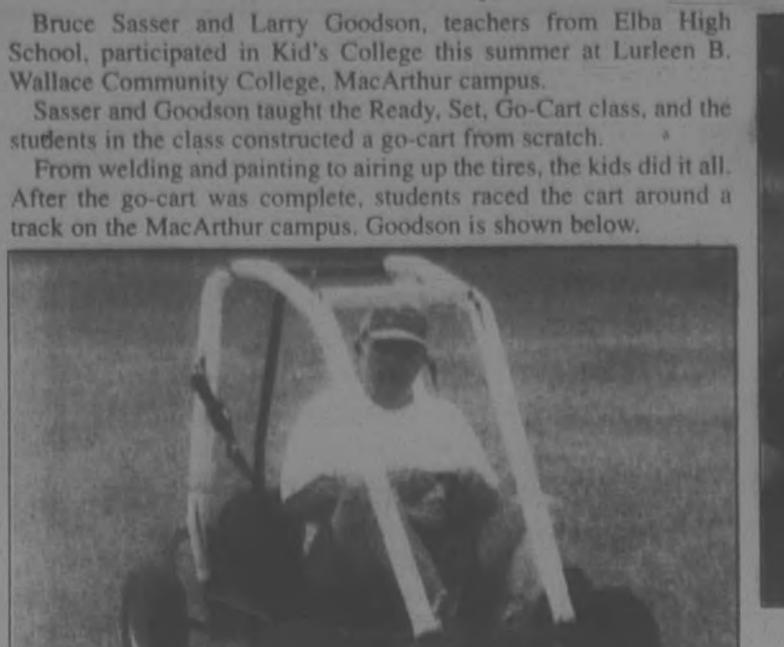
Elba teachers help Kid's College students build go-cart

Bruce Sasser and Larry Goodson, teachers from Elba High School, participated in Kid's College this summer at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, MacArthur campus.

Sasser and Goodson taught the Ready, Set, Go-Cart class, and the students in the class constructed a go-cart from scratch.

From welding and painting to airing up the tires, the kids did it all.

After the go-cart was complete, students raced the cart around a track on the MacArthur campus. Goodson is shown below.



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FOCUSSED
FACTS

ALL THAT GLITTERS...

Skookum Jim, his nephew Tagish Charlie, and Jim's brother-in-law George Carmack spent their summers hunting and fishing. Roaming across Alaska and the Canadian Yukon, they needed to find and preserve enough food to feed themselves and their families during the brutal Arctic winters.

In late July 1896, the trio were camped near the junction of the Yukon and Klondike Rivers. One afternoon, while tracking a moose, Tagish Charlie happened upon a nugget glistening in the sunlight. Racing back to camp he told the others. They insisted the sun, water, and rocks had combined to play a trick on his eyes.

Certain he had found gold, Charlie convinced the others to accompany him back to Rabbit Creek. It took him three weeks, but on August 16, 1896 Skookum Jim and George Carmack discovered that Rabbit Creek really was filled with gold nuggets. The next day, each of them filed a claim in nearby Dawson City. The Klondike Gold Rush was on.

Prospectors from across the north raced to the newly renamed Bonanza Creek. As winter comes early in the north, news of the strike didn't reach the rest of North America until after the ice thawed in the spring of 1897.

Several newly wealthy prospectors sailed from Skagway, Alaska on the SS Portland, arriving in the Pacific Northwest city of Seattle on July 17th. With them, they brought three tons of gold. Like a thunderbolt, news of a Klondike gold strike struck Seattle. Faster than a prairie wildfire, it flashed across the country, and by early fall nearly 100,000 people were racing to the Klondike.

Most sailed to Skagway, where they faced a 600-mile trip to reach the gold fields. Some

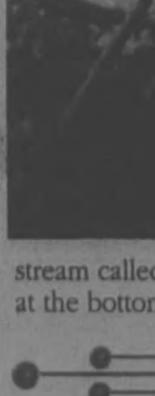
never made it. Others, arriving in the spring of 1898 found the best claims already taken.

In eighteen months, it was over. Overnight, Dawson City grew from a few hundred to a hundred thousand.

It was 2 AM on August 13, 1961 when a group of workers began stringing barbed wire to build a fence that ultimately divided a city, a country, and the world. Replaced by concrete blocks, the barrier became one of the most recognized symbols in modern history. The wall started that night stood for twenty-eight years. What did the wall divide? Need to find the answer? Go to:

<http://www.newsroom.org/berlinwall/>

FastFact



During the first two weeks of August in 1936, Jesse Owens, a native of Lawrence County, won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics. His accomplishment set an Olympic record that would last for forty-eight years. It also overshadowed Adolf Hitler's plan to use the Olympics as a showcase of German superiority. Find out more at www.jesseowens.com.

Klondike Gold Rush: The Perilous Journey North

A resource that includes maps of various routes used to reach the Klondike, photographs of the trials and barriers faced by the thousands of people trying to reach the gold fields.

and explanatory articles about the gold rush and its impact on the participants. Originally created for a 1997 exhibition at the University of Washington Library, these selections subsequently became part of their permanent Internet based collection. Web address: <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/gold/gold2.html>. Articles and information in The Eye Zone do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the sponsor or this newspaper.

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Elba Elementary School

Menu
Aug. 18 - 22, 2003

BREAKFAST

Monday - Cinnamon Toast, Cheese, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Tuesday - Waffles/Syrup, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Wednesday - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Thursday - Pop Tart, Cheese, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday - Pizza, Green Salad, Potato Rounds, Applesauce, Milk
Tuesday - Steak Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes, Black-eye Peas, Sliced Peaches, Milk
Wednesday - Chili w/ Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Thursday - Burrito w/ Cheese, Rice, Red Beans, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Friday - Haggis, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Cookie, Milk

REBEL

(Continued from Page One)

never about the school mascot or changing it.

On Sunday, Barnes held a meeting with several parents and representatives of organizations such as the band boosters, athletic boosters and PTO. The end result was a compromise that school officials will look at each shirt individually to decide if it is considered offensive or not.

Monday afternoon of this week, Ingram said everyone seemed satisfied with the compromise and no problems had occurred that day.

In conclusion, she said the education of children should come first, and in that, the school system wants to be as culturally sound as it can be to all students.

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The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between October 15 and December 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, *Arbor Day*.

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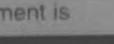
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100' x 120' on 1/2 acre. Elba, AL.
Aug-16th. Equipment: 8 a.m. Tack,
10 a.m. Mules, 12 noon Special
shipment of wagons & carriages
from Canada. Also many show
mules. Call 1-256-538-7774 or
1-256-538-0276. A.S.L.P. #132

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local trade - one owner



2001 FORD EXPEDITION (EDDIE BAUER)
- extra nice - loaded with leather



2001 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE
- leather - low mileage



2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS - local trade
- must see



2000 FOCUS SE - pretty color - automatic



1998 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE - Laredo -
local trade-in - extra clean



2002 MERCURY SABLE - PS - PW/locks - tilt -
cruise - alum wheels



1999 VOLKSWAGON JETTA GL - local trade
- great buy



2001 CHEV TAHOE LS - only 25K miles
- must see



2001 LINCOLN TOWN CAR "SIGNATURE" -
extra clean - fully loaded - great value



2002 Z 71 EX CAB LS - local trade - must see



2002 FORD EXPLORER XLT - 4 dr -
power windows & locks - tilt & cruise



2001 HYUNDAI SANTA FE - leather interior -
all wheel drive - local trade



2000 Z 71 REG CAB LS - sharp - very clean



2002 FORD ESCAPE - power windows & locks - tilt -
cruise - extra clean

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receives quarterly
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The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 10

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 21, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

George Jones coming to Elba on Saturday

As the City of Elba and its citizens continue to celebrate 150 years of history, the "Celebrate Elba 150" committee is preparing for an event expected to be a real treat for music lovers.

On Saturday, Aug. 23, just a few days away, country music legend George "the Possum" Jones will come to Elba prepared to deliver an evening of music filled with the songs which have made him famous throughout his years of performing.

Born in Saratoga, Texas, Jones began performing as a kid as he sang for tips on the streets in nearby Beaumont.

Today, he has over 160 charted records and more charted singles than any other artist in the history of popular music.

Jones first hit the charts in the 1950s, and since that time, he has recorded many number one hits including, "Tender Years," "Walk Through This World

With Me," "The Door," and "Golden Ring."

The recipient of many awards throughout his career including

into the

Country

Music

Hall of

Fame.

Jones' career is one

that continues

to be strong in

the minds and

hearts of his

dedicated

fans.

This will

surely prove

true Saturday

evening, Aug.

23, as George

Jones fans fill

the stands and

field of Miller

Memorial

Stadium

in downtown

Elba

behind the old

Elba High School

building.

music fans might be interested in coming early for the opening performance which will feature Elba native Rob Hudson.

Gates will open at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23, and the opening act will begin performing at 6:30 p.m. Tickets remain on sale for reserved seating on the field and in the stands, as well as, general admission. All ticket prices will increase by \$3 on the day of the concert.

Call the Elba Chamber of Commerce at (334) 897-3131 for additional information.

Miller Memorial Stadium is located in downtown Elba behind the old Elba High School building.

Local students getting ahead with dual enrollment

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Remember when that ringing bell at 3 p.m. meant school was out for the day, and students could forget about the classroom until the next morning? Well, that's certainly not the case any more.

Through a program called dual enrollment, qualifying high school students can now be enrolled in high school and college at the same time.

In the past, students could participate with dual enrollment by going to the college campus and taking a class there; however,

the program has moved a step beyond that now as college level classes can be offered during the day at the high school with college instructors coming to the students.

Both the Elba City Schools and Coffee County Schools have board policies in place for dual enrollment, but only Elba has been able to take advantage of the program and implement it in the school curriculum.

Until now.

With the recent mergers of the local junior and technical colleges, LBW became able to serve the Elba and Coffee

County area and showed interest in offering dual enrollment to the students.

With Enterprise-Ozark Community College the dual enrollment classes at Elba during the day, the opportunity was opened for LBW Community College to offer dual enrollment to students at night.

Elba High School counselor Lynn Weeks said this was viewed as a great opportunity and everyone jumped on board.

By offering the class at night, she said the students from the Coffee County School System would be able to participate, as well as, tenth graders from Elba High School who are not able to participate in the daytime dual enrollment classes.

Weeks said LBW decided to offer a general psychology course to students, and she accepted an invitation from the college to be the instructor for the class.

In order to move forward with the class, Weeks said she needed 10 students to sign up, and the response was unbelievable.

"Originally, the class was supposed to be taught on Wednesday nights," she said. "We had so many to sign up that we had to have a Monday and Wednesday night class."

Please See DUAL, Page 9

Doctor opening new medical practice in Elba

Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home announce the establishment of the medical practice of Walter J. Lawrence, M.D. in Elba. Both Dr. Lawrence and his wife, the former Diana Hickman, are natives of Springfield, Ohio. They are the parents of four children. Melissa is a graduate of Auburn University; Rebecca is currently a Midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Amanda and Hannah attend middle school and live at home with their parents.

Dr. Lawrence holds a Bachelor of Science in General Engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; a Master of Liberal Arts from Washington University in St. Louis; a Master of Public Health from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health in Baltimore, and a Doctor of Medicine from St. Louis University of Medicine in

St. Louis. His military education includes the Army Medical Department Officer Basic and Advanced courses and the U.S. Army Flight Surgeon Course from which he was an honor graduate.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and has completed other training requirements as part of his military career.

He has been the recipient of numerous awards and decorations throughout his career. He is certified by the American Board of Family Practice and the American Board of Preventive Medicine in the subspecialty of Aerospace Medicine; and is certified in Basic Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, and Advanced Trauma Life Support.

Dr. Lawrence will open his practice Friday, Sept. 5, 2003, in his office located at 980 Drayton Street, directly across from Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home. Appointments may be made by calling 897-8937.

A reception for Dr. Lawrence and his family will be hosted by Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home after the opening of his office.

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100 years of serving Coffee County



The Coffee County Courthouse in Elba remains a true testament of time as the building reaches a great milestone tomorrow (Friday), Aug. 22, 2003. The courthouse building was dedicated Aug. 22, 1903 and remains intact for its 100th birthday this week. Through the years, the courthouse has endured three devastating floods (1929, 1990 and 1998) but proved that not even raging river waters could destroy the historical marker. Elba became the county seat of Coffee County in 1852, and the first Elba courthouse was a two-story white frame building completed in 1853. However, it was burned by "Ward's Raiders," a band of Confederate deserters, bushwhackers and Tories in 1863. In 1867, a replacement was built, and in 1881 that building was sold and moved. The first brick courthouse was completed in 1882. That building was later enlarged but proved inadequate; therefore, the present building was built in 1903. Now, 100 years later, this courthouse building, a two-story brick Romanesque structure with Richardsonian influences, continues to be main office for conducting county business. It also sits as the focal point for the "square" in downtown Elba. Among its attributes, the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba is named in the National Register of Historical Locations.

New voter identification laws and uniform polling hours precleared by justice department for upcoming election

Attorney General Bill Pryor recently announced that the U.S. Justice Department has precleared new laws on voter identification and statewide uniform polling hours, which will allow these procedures to be used in the September 9 constitutional amendment election. The preclearance does not include the section of the voter identification law dealing with absentee ballots, which will be taken up at a later date.

"The implementation of our new voter identification law is a tremendous victory for honest elections and the voters of Alabama," Pryor said. "Voter ID is a basic and reasonable safeguard that will preserve the integrity of our elections and protect the fundamental rights of citizens to cast their votes. I am pleased also that the new statewide uniform voting hours should provide a more efficient and convenient voting process."

Act 2003-381 provides that citizens voting in person must present identification at the polls, specifies what types of identification may be accepted, allows those without identification to cast their votes if they poll officials positively identify them as eligible registered voters, otherwise allows those without identification to vote a challenged ballot, and sets criminal penalties for certain violations. These parts of the law were precleared and will be implemented for the September 9 election.

The Justice Department further accepted the interpretation in an Attorney General's opinion issued by Pryor on July 25 that implementation would be delayed for provisions of voter identification regarding absentee ballots. The opinion to Lee County Circuit Clerk Corrine T. Hurst noted that absentee ballot materials must be delivered to election managers not less than 40 days before the date of an election, which would have been July 31. Furthermore, although Act 2003-381 calls for voter identification with absentee ballots, the instructions and procedures for carrying out that requirement are set out in a separate law, Act 2003-313, which will be submitted for preclearance in a letter dated August 6. That law had been submitted on July 21.

Pryor received notice that the voter identification law had been precleared through a letter from the Justice Department dated August 7. When the Act was submitted on July 2, the Attorney General requested expedited preclearance for the September 9 election. Pryor was notified that the new polling hours had been precleared in a letter dated August 6. That law had been submitted on July 21.

In addition, Act 2003-337 set